

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6 and 24-25 are now pending in the application. Claim 5 has been cancelled by this amendment and Claim 25 has been added. Claims 4 and 7-23 have been previously cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kyoichi (Japanese Pat. No. 06227381). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The amended Claim 1 of the present invention recited "the caulking member is composed of aluminum or copper". New Claim 25 recites aluminum.

On the other hand, cited reference Kyoichi (JP 8-66777) teaches nickel (Ni) as the material of the sleeve used for welding (see [0003]), but fails to teach or suggest the feature of the present invention.

Materials having relatively small heat conductivity (high resistance) such as iron and nickel are traditionally used as welding materials. However, great heat must be generated to melt such welding materials. On the other hand, materials having relatively large heat conductivity such as aluminum and copper are not traditionally used for welding. Applicants' invention advantageously uses aluminum or copper as the caulking member. This provides Applicants' invention with excellent oxidation resistance properties (see page 15, lines 9-12). As a result, the reliability of the lamp at areas that are easily heated up due to the contact resistance of the light and current of the lamp is improved.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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